Atty, Dkt. No. AMAT/4582/CMP/ECP/RKK

## THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ln⊄rerAbblication of:

Hey, et al.

Serial No.: 09/853,962

Confirmation No.: 6593

Filed:

May 10, 2001

For: Method and Apparatus to Overcome Anomalies in Copper Seed Layers and to Tune for Feature Size and Aspect Ratio

MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Group Art Unit: 1775

Examiner:

RECEIVEL JAN 2 2 2004 TC 1700 Vivek D. Koppikar

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on January 14, 2004, with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Signature

## **RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED OCTOBER 14, 2003**

In response to the Office Action dated October 14, 2003, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on January 14, 2004, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. Although Applicant believes that no additional fees are due in connection with this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/AMAT/4582/KMT, for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.